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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Max Stadthagen (Nicaragua), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.10

Preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/135 of 19 December 1994,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1994/34 of 29 July 1994 and 1995/63 of 28 July 1995,

Gravely concerned by the fact that malaria causes the death of four million people annually, that hundreds of millions of cases of malaria are reported annually and that infants and children under age five are the major victims,

Alarmed by the loss of human life, the severe degradation in the quality of life and the fact that the social and economic development of developing countries is impeded, as a result of malaria, and despite the development of new vaccines,

Recalling the agreed conclusions of the coordination segment of the substantive session of 1993 of the Economic and Social Council on the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system in the fields of preventive action and

intensification of the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular cholera, 1/

Acknowledging the importance for countries where malaria is endemic of adopting national plans of action in conformity with the Global Malaria Control Strategy of the World Health Organization, 2/ endorsed by the Ministerial Conference on Malaria held at Amsterdam in 1992 and by the World Health Assembly in 1993,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa; 3/

2. Reaffirms its endorsement of the Global Malaria Control Strategy of the World Health Organization, as adopted;

3. Expresses its appreciation of the efforts of the World Health Organization and the specialized agencies concerned in assisting the developing countries in their efforts to combat endemic diseases;

4. Notes with appreciation the continued efforts of the affected countries to control the disease, in spite of their meagre resources, through national plans and projects and urges the affected countries that have not yet done so to adopt national plans to control malaria in conformity with the Global Malaria Control Strategy of the World Health Organization;

5. Stresses the need for strengthening national capacity-building within the context of primary health care so as to enable developing countries to meet the objectives of the Global Malaria Control Strategy, with a view to contributing to the development of overall health;

6. Endorses the strategies and work plans that have been developed through a collaborative process involving relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, with the World Health Organization as task coordinator, to provide optimal support to affected developing countries in order to achieve the goals and objectives pertaining to the prevention and control of malaria and diarrhoeal diseases;

7. Calls upon the international community, in particular the donor countries, to expand, where possible, fund-raising channels and to provide adequate financial resources and medical and technical assistance to the affected developing countries, in particular African countries and least developed countries, for the successful implementation of work plans and

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/48/3/Rev.1), chap. III, sect. B.

2/ World Health Organization, A Global Strategy for Malaria Control (Geneva, 1993).

3/ A/50/180-E/1995/63.

projects, and the achievement of significant progress in both the short and the medium term, to control malaria and to intensify basic and applied research on anti-malarial vaccines as a priority;

8. Encourages the Director-General of the World Health Organization, through the World Health Organization's Division of Control of Tropical Diseases, to continue his efforts to mobilize international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, the specialized agencies, organs and programmes of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations as well as other groups to provide the affected developing countries, in particular African countries, with technical, medical and financial resources and assistance commensurate with the needs set forth in those countries' national plans to control malaria;

9. Welcomes the proposal of the Secretary-General related to the struggle against malaria in Africa contained in his initiatives for Africa;

10. Welcomes with satisfaction the agreement signed between Dr. Manuel Elkin Patarroyo of Colombia and the World Health Organization, in May 1995, by which Dr. Patarroyo donated to the World Health Organization the licence of the patent rights and know-how related to the SPf66 anti-malarial vaccine developed by him, which constitutes an example of solidarity and effective South-South cooperation for development, and supports the request of the World Health Organization for the provision of additional resources for malaria research under the United Nations Development Programme/World Bank/World Health Organization Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases in order to accomplish its goal of developing an effective vaccine for the control of malaria;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session the progress report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the implementation of the strategies and work plans to be prepared in collaboration with the other relevant organs, organizations, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system.